

REMARKS

The first paragraph of the specification has been amended (i) to insert the section heading "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.77(b) and M.P.E.P. § 608.01(a) and (ii) to clarify the priority history of the present application.

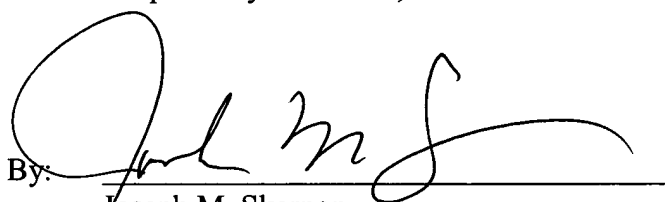
Claims 20-31 are pending in this application. These claims correspond to claims 34-45, which were withdrawn from consideration as the result of a Restriction Requirement imposed in the prosecution of parent Application Serial No. 10/199,481, of which the present application is a divisional. Claims 1-19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits of pending claims 20-31 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 30, 2004

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. M. Skerpon", written over a horizontal line.

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